

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments in this paper, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12-14 and 15-21 will be pending in the above-identified application. Claims 14-16, 20 and 21 are herein amended. Claim 13 is herein canceled. No new matter is entered. It is respectfully submitted that this paper is fully responsive to the Office action mailed on January 11, 2010.

Applicant thanks the examiner for considering claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 12 to be allowable. In light of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, applicant earnestly solicits favorable consideration. Applicant has amended the claims in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

Applicant has canceled the only claim rejected on its merits, claim 13. Applicant has amended claim 14 to include some of the features of claim 13. Further, applicant has amended claim 21 to include some of the features of claim 20.

Claim Objections

Claims 9, 14 and 21 stand objected to since it is unclear to the examiner what a “program readable” is. The examiner also objects to claim 20 as being unclear for containing the following phrase, “clearly separated.”

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 does not recite the objected to phrase. As such, applicant submits claim 9 is in proper form. Applicant asks the examiner to call applicant's representative if claim 9 was meant to be objected to for a different reason.

Regarding claims 14 and 21, applicant has amended these claims and respectfully submits that they are in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 20, applicant has removed the objected to phrase and respectfully submit it is in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 15-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding newly added claims 15 – 20, the examiner rejects these claims for minor informalities. Applicant has amended claims 15-20 in order to address the rejections. As such, applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-20 are in condition for allowance.

On the Merits

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by “Mutual Adaptation in Human-Robot Cooperative Walk” (*Miyake et al.*)

In order to expedite prosecution of the application, applicant has canceled claim 13, rendering the rejection moot.

Thus, applicant has addressed all of the outstanding objections and rejections to the application. As such, in view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants’ undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

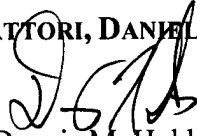
Application No. 10/588,770
Art Unit: 2121

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Attorney Docket No. 062744

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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